

FREEDOM OF EXPRESSION IS FREEDOM FROM INSULT, NOT FREEDOM TO INSULT!

Response to recent cartoon issue

- ◆ Each faith community feels a deep-rooted emotional attachment to the symbols and personalities it reveres. Muslims are no different. The value system of Islam is underpinned by respect and reverence - reverence for the Almighty, for all the Messengers of the Almighty - including the Prophets Abraham, Noah, Moses, Jesus and Muhammad (peace be upon them all), the angels, the holy scriptures, the holy cities, religious symbols and places of worship, and respect for elders, teachers, leaders, religious scholars, parents, the elderly etc.
- ◆ Depicting images of the Prophet (peace be upon him) is strictly forbidden in Islam. The rationale for the prohibition, inter alia, of depicting the Prophet (peace be upon him) is that he was too sublime to be truly portrayed. Furthermore, attempts at portraying him could result in his image being distorted. There are therefore no records of any authentic image or portrait of him anywhere in the world, from any period of Islamic history, which is a significant point of note.
- ◆ Any attempt to depict the Prophet Muhammad (peace be upon him) in illustration is an attempt to depict the sacrosanct, which is not allowed. The nature of cartoons is to satirise and trivialise. This is clearly not acceptable in the case of a personality who is held in the highest esteem by almost 2 billion people globally.
- ◆ Irrespective of what the motive is for the repeated publishing and displaying of these blasphemous cartoons - whether for cheap publicity, political gains, deliberate provocation, or due to sheer ignorance - it is grossly offensive and highly insensitive and will always be rejected by all people of morality with the contempt it deserves!
- ◆ Muslims accept the principle of constructive freedom of expression, but not the freedom to wantonly insult, which is sometimes deviously and deceptively masqueraded as freedom of expression. True freedom of expression is freedom FROM insult, not freedom TO insult! Freedom to insult has ultimately resulted in hatred, bigotry and even destruction. Humour that is

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disrespectful, insensitive and offensive, is not humour, but is in fact hubris.

- ◆ But when Muslims object, the stock response is that they do not appreciate freedom of expression. The media and others view this as an infringement of the right of freedom of speech. However, one aspect that is often overlooked is that no right is absolute; there are inherent limitations. Every right is counterbalanced against other rights. Every right has to be exercised with utmost responsibility.
- ◆ The blatant hypocrisy of certain leaders in the application of freedom of speech is glaringly visible for the world to see! Whilst they harp on the promotion of freedom of speech, they are intolerant of any criticism of themselves or things that are dear to them. So much for freedom of speech!
- ◆ Muslim leaders and masses would be justifiably outraged and enraged by this act of profanity. This could even precipitate protests and boycotts. The worldwide anger and outpouring of objections has made it amply clear that Muslims will never accept disrespect to the Prophet (peace be upon him) or whatever else is deemed sacred to them. Despite this open provocation, Muslims are urged to follow the noble example of the Holy Prophet (Peace be upon Him) in the kind, tolerant and forgiving manner he dealt with his enemies and continued to invite them to the Path of Guidance.



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The sign of extreme love

What is the sign of true love? Every person can claim to have great love but ishq is such that the more one has ishq for Nabi-e-Kareem ﷺ, the more he will follow the Sunnah of Rasulullah ﷺ. He will mould his life according to the Sunnah of Nabi-e-Kareem ﷺ. This is the sign of true ishq.

Following the Sunnah has been declared the condition for attaining the love of Allah Ta'ala.

Hadith: *“None of you can be a true believer until his desires become subservient to the way (Shariat) that I have brought.” (Mishkat)*

Hadrath Moulana Gangohi (RA) used to say, "The mentioning of Ma'arif, (the disclosing of hidden conditions of another realm and explaining intricate points regarding the unseen) cannot be compared with an ordinary action which is done according to the Sunnah. For example, cleansing oneself in accordance to the Sunnah after answering the call of nature is more virtuous than explaining deep points of Ma'rifat (recognition of Allah Ta'ala)."

These personalities were the true lovers of Rasulullah ﷺ and the indication of this love is that every facet of their lives is illuminated with the adherence to the Sunnah. Every action is done, bearing in mind that it is not contrary to the Sunnah. Love is related to the heart. Anyone can claim and make a hue and cry that he is a lover of Rasulullah ﷺ, but the sign of that love is to follow the Sunnah.

Adapted from The Deoband Ulama and their Love for Rasulullah ﷺ

Important & Precious Advices regarding Recent Events

During these critical times, the Muslims should observe the following:

1. With love and reverence, carefully study the beautiful life of our beloved Prophet ﷺ from authentic reliable sources.
2. Frequently make mention of this beautiful life to both Muslims and non-Muslims alike.
3. Distribute leaflets and booklets which cover aspects of this great life far and wide.
4. Give place to his illuminating teachings in your daily life so that others can appreciate the greatness of his exemplary conduct.
5. Send salutations and greetings upon him in abundance.
6. Supplicate to Allah Ta'ala, beseeching Him to pardon our sins and to grant us assistance and protection from all evil.
7. Exercise patience and remain within the boundary set by our beloved Prophet ﷺ.

by Shaykh-ul-Hadith, Shaykh Mawlana Muhammad Saleem Dhorat hafizahullah

ISLAM HONOURS WOMEN

Abu Hurairah ؓ narrates that Rasulullah ﷺ said:

“The most complete of the believers in faith, is the one with the best character among them. And the best of you are those who are best to your women.” (Tirmizi)

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Tertiary learners attend motivation programme at Darul Ihsan

The tertiary learners of MA Motala Centre in Wyebank, Durban visited Darul Ihsan Centre on Saturday, 19 September, 2020.

The students were treated to presentations on 'Emotional Intelligence' and 'Social media management'. The fifteen learners who hail from the Free State, Mpumalanga, Eastern Cape and KZN provinces are engaged in various fields of study, including Criminal Law, Engineering, Business Science, Chef course and other academic pursuits.

The programme was interactive and lively and culminated with a Q&A session on the topics discussed. The students were taken on a short tour of the new building complex and proceeded for lunch after closure with a dua...[READ MORE](#)

Akhlaq of Rasulullah ﷺ

"And you are surely on exalted quality of character." (Surah Qalam 68:4)

The character of Nabi ﷺ is described most aptly by his dear wife Hazrat Ayesha (R.A.) who said: "His character was the Qur'an." (Musnad Ahmad)

In other words, he is the living example of the Qur'an that teaches high morals.

Hazrat 'Ali ؑ explains that the ayah 'exalted quality of character' signifies the 'good manners taught by the Qur'an'. This signifies that Nabi ﷺ possessed such character and excellence that qualified him to be the true guide and inspiration for humanity. Nabi ﷺ was a complete embodiment of all good that a human is capable of possessing. In another narration, Rasulallah ﷺ himself said: "I have been sent to perfect noble conduct." (Musnad Bazzar)

Due to this perfection and exalted nature, the duty of every believer is to endeavour to inculcate the beautiful, noble characteristics of Nabi ﷺ within his life. It is through the inculcation of the characteristics of Nabi ﷺ into one's daily life, that one will truly achieve success...

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Whilst the World rages, a Believer is courageous...

When the pen is finally put down and the final exam script collected... students can finally sigh with relief that exams are finally over!

However, the end of the exam year also beacons an event of great test. This test is not an examination of the curriculum; rather it is an examination of morality and Iman.

Rage in itself is a wild display of abhorrent uncouth behaviour that is in complete contrast to the dignity, decorum and beautiful character that a Muslim possesses. Whilst the world rages, a Muslim is productive and beneficial.

Islam is a holistic and complete religion which tempers our lives as well as our leisure. Yes, it is true that all work and no play does make Jack a dull boy, hence Islam promotes light moments of humour...[READ MORE](#)

The Difference between Lillah and Sadaqah

Q: What is the meaning of the terms Lillah and Sadaqah and is there a difference between the two?

A: In contemporary times, the terms Sadaqah and Lillah are generally used refer to Nafl (voluntary) charity.

Sadaqah generally is regarded to be for the benefit of the poor (irrespective of whether they are Muslims and recipients of Zakaat or not). Lillah is commonly understood to be for any Deeni cause such as the establishment and maintaining of Masajid, Madrasahs, graveyards, and other Deeni institutions, etc. It not only restricted for the benefit of the poor.

However, apart from the common usage, Sadaqah, technically can also refer to compulsory charity. An example of this is Sadaqatul Fitr.

Hence, whilst the term Lillah is specific to voluntary charity, the term Sadaqah is technically more general and may refer to compulsory charities as well. Where Sadaqah refers to compulsory charity, then it should be restricted to those who are eligible to accept Zakaat.

Given the above, we advise that when institutions are being given Sadaqah one should specify it to be either optional or compulsory and if optional, one should specify whether it is restricted to the poor only or if it could be used for any other Deeni cause.



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Q&A

Q Is it permissible to use a braai stand at a public place, if one puts foil or a grill mat over the griddle?

A Using a braai griddle in a public place should be avoided as far as possible to avoid contamination. However, if it is thoroughly washed and sanitised then using it will not be impermissible. If a foil or grill mat is used then it would be better.

Q Until what age should a brother and sister share the same room?

A Children from the age of 9 years must be made to sleep on separate beds. The separation of beds should start before this age so that they are already accustomed to sleeping on their own.

Nowadays boys and girls should also be separated into separate rooms where possible. The awareness levels and exposure of children requires parents to be cautious and proactive.

Q I would like to know the Islamic ruling with regard to smoking marijuana (cannabis/weed/dagga/zol, etc.)

A All intoxicants are Haram and prohibited. To consume (drink/smoke/inject/ingest) any intoxicant including marijuana (weed/dagga/cannabis) is clearly prohibited. The spiritual, physical and societal harms of drugs and intoxicants are devastating.

Q Can I perform Tahiyatul Wudhu before Salatul Fajr?

A According to the Hanafi jurists, once the time of Fajr has entered only the Sunnats of Fajr can be performed before the Fardh of Fajr.

If the Tahiyatul Wudhu was commenced prior to the entry of Fajr time, it would be permissible.

However, if the time of Fajr had already entered then only the Sunnats of Fajr should be performed.

Together with the Sunnats of Fajr, one may make the intention of Tahiyatul Wudhu as well. It is hoped that the reward shall be attained accordingly.

Q If a man marries a woman who has not sat for her Iddah, will the Nikah be valid?

A Observing Iddah is a Quranic obligation upon a woman. Nikah to a woman whilst she is observing her Iddah is invalid.

If a woman failed to observe her Iddah, she will be sinful. However, making Nikah with a woman whose Iddah period has expired completely is permissible.

Q I want to know what is the ruling on a widow travelling after Iddat? Can my sons in law be my mahram?

A Principally, in terms of the Hanafi School a woman travelling on a journey of more than 77 kms must be accompanied by her husband or a relative who qualifies as a 'mahram'.

Islamically the son in law does qualify as a mahram to his mother in law and she may travel with him. However, due to prevailing

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conditions, Ulama have emphasized that due caution and discretion be exercised in this regard.

Q Are you allowed to play a game on an agreement that the losers will buy the winners something, like a prize?

A This is tantamount to gambling and hence, impermissible.

Q If the teacher listens to each student's Quran lesson individually, and the same sajdah verse is recited by each student, how many sajdahs do each of them make? Note that each student is able to hear the other student's recitation.

A In the mentioned scenario, if the same verse of sajdah tilawat is repeated and heard in the same gathering/sitting then only one sajdah is Wajib on each person.

Q Is hunting allowed in the sacred months?

A In principle, hunting is permissible in all months of the year including the sacred Islamic months. Hunting is prohibited for a person who is within the boundaries of the Haram and one who is in a state of Ihram for Hajj or Umrah.

Q Is it permissible to make Tayammum if one fears missing the Janazah Salah?

A If there is a fear that Janazah Salah will be missed due to making wudhu then it would be permissible to make

Tayammum and join the Janazah Salah even though water is available. This only applies to Janazah and Eid Salah.

Q Is it permissible for the wife to ask her husband for his phone and or computer password if she is suspicious about him?

A The husband and wife should enjoy a relationship of trust and love. More importantly there shouldn't be anything that the husband or wife does that raises suspicion towards each other. If there is a concern this should be discussed with respect and in a manner that does not lead to further tension and conflict. If the matter escalates and parties are unable to resolve between themselves then they should refer it for Islamic mediation.

The Fatwa Department of Darul Ihsan provides a wide range of services such as the issuing of rulings, verdicts, research, mediation, estate distribution and planning, general advice, etc.

The Fatwa Department receives an average of 250 questions per month - mostly via email - from around the globe.

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Making a Muslim HAPPY

Bringing happiness to a Muslim is a Sunnah and an act of great merit. There are many ways in which this can be achieved. Many people find themselves in distress and difficulty. By cheering someone up, it lightens their difficulty and gives hope.

This little act of goodness could be a means of someone changing their life. This could be achieved by speaking in a polite manner, an invitation to a meal or presenting a gift, etc. Any action of this nature would entitle one to great benefits which are found in the Ahadith.

Hazrat Umar ؓ narrates from Rasulullāh ﷺ, *"The best action is to bring happiness to a fellow Muslim, either by concealing his faults, satiating his hunger or fulfilling his need."* (Al Mu'jamul Awsat lit Tabrani)

Hazrat Anas ؓ narrates that Nabi ﷺ said: *"Whoever meets his Muslim brother and makes him happy with something that Allah likes, Allah will make him happy on the Day of Qiyamah."* (Al Mu'jamus Saghir lit Tabrani)

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Replying to the Azan

The Azan is the arabic term for the call to prayer. When the Azan for Salah is called out it is mustahab (rewarding) to reply to the Azan by repeating the words after the Muazzin. This practice has been encouraged in a number of Ahadith.

Hazrat Abdullah ibn Amr ibn Aas ؓ reports that Rasulullāh ﷺ said, *"When you hear the Muazzin then repeat what he says ..."* (Sahih Muslim)

Hazrat Umar ؓ narrates that Rasulullāh ﷺ, *"When the Muazzin says 'Allahu Akbar' then the one who says 'Allahu Akbar Allahu Akbar' ...(and continuous mentioning the other words of the Azan)..., - when (the Muazzin) says Lailaha Illallah, then the one who says Lailaha Illallah from the heart (with conviction), will enter Jannah."* (Sahih Muslim)

Hazrat Abu Hurairah ؓ narrates, *"We were with Rasulullāh ﷺ when Hazrat Bilal ؓ stood up to call out the Azan. When he completed the Azan, Rasulullāh ﷺ said, 'Whoever says these words with conviction will enter Jannah.'" (Sunan Nasai)*

It is understood from these Ahadith that in addition to responding to the Azan by proceeding for Salah, we should also respond to the words of the Azan...[READ MORE](#)

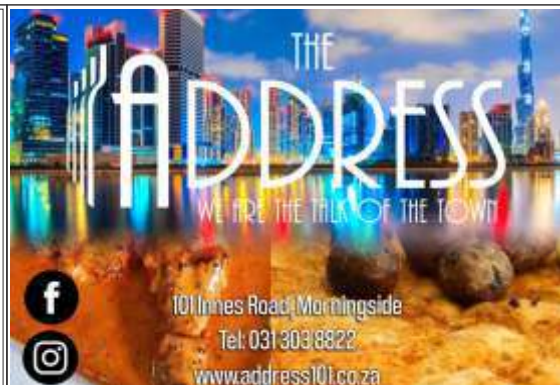
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Whats Happening at Darul Ihsan

Helping Others

The Welfare Department of Darul Ihsan Humanitarian Centre provides a wide range of services to the needy community.

Darul Ihsan Humanitarian Centre receives many used items - mostly domestic goods - from the community for distribution to the needy.

Darul Ihsan Humanitarian Centre humbly requests our donor community that used items they contribute should be both permissible and usable, i.e., in good condition - whether it be clothing, furniture, cutlery, linen, tools, etc.

Any item contributed - no matter how menial - is most appreciated and considered a 'prized gift' by many a needy person.

We urge people to contribute goods - used or unused - to DHC for distribution to the needy.

For more information, kindly contact Darul Ihsan Humanitarian Centre

Special Outreach in Rural Kwa-Zulu Natal

Rural indigenous women play a crucial role in agriculture, food farming and nutrition as they struggle through their daily lives. Many rural women suffer from a lack of access to technology and markets to improve their work and personal life. Despite their difficulties many of these rural women are breadwinners for their families, especially in the rural Umkhanyakude District in Jozini.

Darul Ihsan Humanitarian Centre's Relief Team - in conjunction with the Spousal Office of the KZN Premier - attended a community programme held in the Umhlabuyalingana Municipality, Umkhanyakude District in Jozini. About a hundred farmers, most of them women, where assisted with agricultural boots and blankets...[READ MORE](#)

Al Ihsan Relief Team provides relief for victims of fire

On Sunday 25 October 2020, in the late hours of the night, a huge fire broke out at the New Germany Road informal settlement resulting in 412 dwellings being razed to the ground with 900 residents left without homes and an adult male sustaining first degree burns.

Fortunately, there were no fatalities.

At first light on Monday 26 October the Al Ihsan Relief Team - in conjunction with Darul Ihsan Humanitarian Centre - was requested by EThekwin Disaster Management officials to provide relief for the beleaguered residents...[READ MORE](#)

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SA's poor failed by lack of Social Development

In the recent Portfolio Committee meeting of the Department of Social Development, officials were rebuked by all political parties of their failure to deliver much-needed food parcels (for which the Department forked out R 25 million) to the needy during the lockdown.

In essence, the department was supposed to distribute food parcels to 176 000 families, but only managed to deliver 1 025 in two months.

By distinction, impoverished communities across South Africa benefitted from the generous contributions from people of all walks of life - efficiently effected through the tireless and enhanced efforts of respective non-profit organisations, public benefit organisations and civil society - in response to the economic challenges faced by millions of South Africans due to the lockdown...[READ MORE](#)

Cars set on fire, shops looted

The article "Cars set on fire, shops looted," (Daily News, October 13) and "Alarm at rise in security costs," (front page, October 12) refer.

With regards to the recent protest action in Reservoir Hills (ward 23) and the aftermath of the wanton violence and crime in the area, and of municipal officials spending more on being protected - one is faced with an interesting state of affairs.

On the one hand, the Cogta portfolio committee raised concerns about the beefed-up spending on security of officials, and on the other, ordinary and vulnerable citizens were left in the lurch when their safety and security was threatened.

Protest actions carry the risk of violence and crime...[READ MORE](#)

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